

OREGON CROP WEATHER



OREGON
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE

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Weather: Warm and dry conditions early in the week gave way to below normal temperatures and above normal precipitation over the weekend. Rainfall totals for the week ranged from over 1.5 inches in the northwest to less than 0.1 inches in parts of south central Oregon. Extremely high fire danger levels that existed in some areas were lowered with the weekend rains. High temperatures in the early part of the week easily reached the 90 degree mark throughout the State, with the exception of the coastal areas, where highs topped out in the 70's. Lakeview, in south central Oregon, reported a low of 46 degrees last week. Much of the rest of the State saw lows in the 50's and low 60's. Hermiston recorded 204 growing degree days (base 50), the highest for the week.

Field Crops: Small grain harvest continued last week. As of August 22, 92 percent of the winter wheat had been harvested. This compared to 98 percent last year and the 5 year average of 93 percent. Third and fourth cutting alfalfa was being harvested last week in many areas. Small grain and grass seed harvest was winding down in Marion County. Much needed rain at the end of last week slowed harvest progress throughout much of the State. In Wasco County, the weekend rain improved soil moisture conditions for fall seeded grain crops. Seeding is expected to start in early September.

Fruit and Nuts: Summer pear harvest continued in the mid Hood River Valley orchards and was underway in Parkdale. Fruit growers in the lower Hood River Valley prepared orchards for d'Anjou pear harvest. Bartlett and Comice pears were harvested in Jackson County. Early pear and apple harvest started in Wasco County. Suncrest peach harvest began in Yamhill County; early season apple harvest continued. Wine grapes looked good in southern Oregon. Southern coast cranberries continued to size and color.

Nurseries and Greenhouses: Many greenhouses were busy getting ready for fall plants and winter season ornamentals. Nurseries activities included irrigating, feeding, and repotting plants. Christmas Tree growers continued with tree shearing. Easter lily growers in Coos and Curry counties had good weather for seasonal planting activities.

Vegetables: Onion seed and garlic harvest was complete in Sherman County. Farmers markets and roadside stands in Jackson County have a wide variety of vegetables available for sale. Green bean and sweet corn harvests advanced rapidly. Lane, Line, and Benton counties reported sweet corn yields above average. Potatoes are 75 percent turned and 10 percent knocked down in Klamath County.

Livestock, Range and Pasture: Precipitation received late last week should help improve pastures and rangeland. Dryland pastures, in many areas, were in summer dormancy with producers grazing livestock on irrigated land where facilities were available. Hail was reported to have damaged some rangeland in northeastern Oregon. Some areas were becoming over grazed, but rain received will hopefully improve conditions. Livestock were reported in good condition across the State.

Crop Progress - Week Ending 8/22/04

	This week	Previous week	Last year	5 year average
Barley harvested (%)	72	70	88	72
Spring Wheat harvested (%)	79	70	91	82
Winter Wheat harvested (%)	92	83	98	93
Days suitable for fieldwork	6.5	6.8	—	—

Soil Moisture - Week Ending 8/22/04

	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Topsoil (%)	10	58	32	—
Subsoil (%)	17	53	30	—

Crop Condition - Week Ending 8/22/04

	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Range & Pasture (%)	4	13	43	32	8

WESTERN OREGON

CLACKAMAS: Winter wheat harvest was complete. Evergreen blackberry picking continued. Other berry fields are being cultivated and hoed. Green bean and sweet corn harvests are advancing rapidly. Salad greens are plentiful for the local markets. Nursery activity was mainly irrigation and spraying. Livestock continue to be in relatively good condition with supplemental feeding. Pastures in summer dormancy. Heavy rain this weekend (nearly two inches) has temporarily relieved drought conditions on dry land operations. Very nice rain Saturday night. Two inches received by Monday morning and more is welcome.

COOS/CURRY: Cranberries continued to size and develop color. Easter lily growers had good weather for seasonal planting tasks. Livestock in mostly good condition. Dry except for some rain on Sunday morning, 8/22. Days since precipitation of 0.25" or more at Brookings-Harbor: 19 days, at Bandon: 74 days. Average air temperatures at coastal AgriMet weather stations ranged from 58.3 at Brookings-Harbor to 59.6 deg F at Bandon; highs ranged from 67.9 at Bandon to 70.1 deg F at Brookings-Harbor, and lows ranged from 47.3 at Bandon to 51.4 deg F at Brookings-Harbor. Growing degree days (base 50 deg F) ranged from 67 GDD at Brookings-Harbor to 70 GDD at Bandon.

JACKSON: Grain harvest almost completed. Third cutting alfalfa being bailed. Straw being bailed. Sugarbeets being seeded. Bartlett and Comice pears being harvested. Irrigation of tree fruits continues. Tomatoes, sweet corn, and melons ripe and being harvested. Grain harvest is almost done and straw baled or being mulched. Second cutting of alfalfa being made with most now done and watering to get the next cuttings. Bartlett pear harvest continued and other varieties still being irrigated. Lots of wild blackberries for picking, but the hot weather is drying lots of them and size is small. Wine grapes are looking good. Lots of good fresh vegetables at roadside stands. Cucumbers, squash, corn, tomatoes, and early potatoes are being picked and sold. Farmers markets are also quite busy with a good variety of vegetables. Greenhouses getting ready for fall plants and winter season ornamentals. Nurseries mostly doing plant maintenance (watering and feeding) of stock. Most livestock still on the valley floor are now on irrigated ground. The weather has been so hot and

dry with afternoon winds that it is hard to keep pastures growing. Dry ground is really dead and dry. We really need a good rain.

JOSEPHINE: Just harvesting and watering now. Grapes aren't quite ready, crop looks good to excellent. Vineyards look very good. Good year for grapes. Animals look good on irrigated pastures. There is not open range in this area but in higher ground there are some ground shrubs and cover to eat. Water is still running in most of the larger creeks and rivers but dwindling quickly. Second cutting of hay is going on now. Rain this morning but it is a very light drizzle. Temperatures above normal overnight and daytime. Explosive fire situation has not been reduced.

LANE/LINN/BENTON: Yields: Grass seed, average to above average; wheat, average; peppermint, above average; sweet corn, above average. August storm provided between .25 - .50 inches of moisture over last weekend. Continued forecast of rain through most of the last week of August should benefit grass seed growers preparing ground for next season's crop.

MARION: Cereal grain and grass seed harvest winding down and should be finished in the next few days. Mint harvest is also nearing completion. Hop harvest just getting underway. Red clover seed harvest should begin soon and fourth cutting alfalfa is underway. Received 1.5 inches of rain on Sunday morning.

YAMHILL: Suncrest peach harvest started this week. Early season apple harvest continues.

EASTERN OREGON

BAKER: Haying, mint harvest, and combining continue.

CROOK, DESCHUTES, JEFFERSON: Wheat acres harvested: Crook 50-55 percent, Deschutes 40 percent, Jefferson Culver area 40-50% and Agency Plains 75-80 percent harvested. It appeared that most of the barley was still standing in the field, though some had been harvested. Some hay in the fields, in windrows and in bale, but for the most part seem to be between cuttings in Crook and Jefferson counties.

HARNEY: Meadow hay harvest continues, some spotty thunderstorm damage. Industrial Fire Precaution Level 4 (extreme fire danger) on most range areas in the county, however currently there are no major fires. More calves listed on the video markets.

HOOD RIVER: Summer pear harvest continued in mid-valley orchards and got underway in Parkdale. Fruit growers in the lower Hood River Valley prepared orchards for d'Anjou pear harvest.

KLAMATH: Hot weather continues. Crops continue to look good. Grain harvest continues, farmers are finishing third cutting and hoping for a large fourth cutting of hay. Potatoes 75 percent turning, 10 percent knocked down.

LAKE: Warm and dry weather for the majority of the week. Received fair amount of precipitation toward the end of the week. Precipitation helped to damper the large fire east of Lakeview.

MORROW: Storms Saturday night and Sunday delivered significant amounts of rainfall. Amounts ranged from 0.4 to 1.0 inch, depending on location. For the first time in five or six years, growers are considering early seeding.

SHERMAN: Grain harvest winding down. Thundershower last Saturday made for early weekend, but those cutting were still able to start up again without much delay. Continues to be hot and muggy. Onions and garlic harvest complete. Some thistle control work in stubble and rodweeding in fallow. Getting ready for County Fair ... only 12 days and counting.

UNION: Most of this week was dry and sunny with daytime highs in the upper nineties. However, the week ended with much cooler temperatures and very wet weather. Sunday afternoon saw very widespread rain showers that soaked most of Union County. Grain mint, and hay harvests continued last week, however, the wet weather at the end of the week will probably delay further harvests for at least a few days. Grazing and pasture lands are still looking very good for this time of year. Periodic rains this summer have kept these areas greener than normal.

WALLOWA: Harvest is in full swing throughout most of the valley. Too early to tell about yields. Some damage to rangeland due to hailstorms in the northeast part of the county.

WASCO: Heavy rain fell Saturday night and early Sunday morning, yielding three quarters of an inch of precipitation. This will shut down grain harvest for a number of days to come. Luckily, wheat and barley harvest were nearly complete. Third cutting of alfalfa hay in the Tygh Valley and Dufur bottom land was underway. Hay operations, however, will be hindered this next week. Cattle continue to hold their own on the dry pastures that are becoming over grazed. Watering ponds and springs continue to dry up, but the rain may give the situation a shot in the arm. Stone fruit crops continued to be harvested through the week, while early pear and apple crops were starting. Fire danger was critical all over Wasco County until today. Today's rain should improve soil moisture conditions for fall seeded grain crops scheduled to start in early September.

WEATHER DATA FOR SELECTED STATIONS IN OREGON WEEK ENDING August 22, 2004 (as of 11:00 am)

STATION	AIR TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS BASE-50F		LAST WEEK PRECIP			SEASON CUM PRECIPITATION			
	LO	HI	AVG	DFN	TOTAL	DFN	TOTAL INCHES	DFN	DAYS	TOTAL INCHES	DFN	PCT NORMAL	DAYS
COASTAL AREAS													
Astoria/Clatsop	56	72	65	5	106	30	1.49	1.17	2	63.11	-2.82	96	196
Crescent City	53	63	59	0	63	0	0.21	-0.03	2	53.68	-11.21	83	158
Florence	48	77	62	2	89	12	1.43	1.09	1	71.98	-4.03	95	182
North Bend	52	70	61	2	78	8	0.22	-0.03	1	64.87	1.89	103	175
Tillamook	47	70	61	3	79	16	1.00	0.58	2	85.12	-2.88	97	199
WILLAMETTE VALLEY													
Corvallis	52	93	73	7	159	47	0.73	0.52	1	31.45	-10.96	74	133
Eugene	51	92	71	4	145	23	0.31	0.03	1	38.31	-10.70	78	150
Hillsboro	54	91	71	6	146	36	1.14	0.86	1	31.04	-6.21	83	157
McMinnville	54	92	71	6	150	38	0.36	0.18	1	33.43	-9.48	78	154
Portland AP	61	89	73	6	165	34	1.36	1.08	1	30.42	-5.52	85	153
Salem	55	91	71	6	150	33	0.26	0.07	1	38.08	-0.82	98	159
SW VALLEYS													
Grants Pass	56	95	77	7	190	43	0.20	0.07	1	28.32	-2.53	92	116
Medford	59	97	76	5	184	28	0.28	0.14	1	19.38	0.69	104	113
Roseburg AP	54	94	74	5	168	35	0.27	0.13	1	33.27	0.78	102	139
NORTH CENTRAL													
Condon	52	95	73	9	162	58	0.41	0.26	2	17.47	3.66	127	99
Heppner	58	96	76	8	184	54	0.41	0.26	1	14.57	0.90	107	136
Hermiston AP	61	99	79	8	204	54	0.12	0.05	1	10.86	2.06	123	93
John Day	53	91	72	6	158	37	0.40	0.16	3	12.45	-0.62	95	117
Moro	57	96	76	10	184	66	0.33	0.19	1	12.68	1.72	116	96
Pendleton AP	69	74	77	6	191	41	0.31	0.17	2	12.68	1.72	116	96
The Dalles	62	96	78	12	198	85	0.57	0.43	1	14.55	2.20	118	104
SOUTH CENTRAL													
Bend	51	91	71	10	150	62	0.00	-0.14	0	13.17	1.63	114	83
Burns AP	47	90	68	5	128	33	0.87	0.69	4	9.61	-0.19	98	93
Klamath Falls	49	90	68	3	128	14	0.16	0.02	1	12.72	-0.62	95	98
Lakeview	46	88	67	4	123	21	0.26	0.12	2	9.13	-6.33	59	65
Redmond	47	93	70	5	140	38	0.48	0.34	2	10.09	1.67	120	87
NORTHEAST													
Baker City	47	90	68	3	124	15	0.25	0.01	3	8.39	-2.24	79	103
Joseph	53	90	70	10	140	67	0.10	-0.18	2	17.89	-6.64	73	135
La Grande AP	48	91	69	1	134	6	0.72	0.51	2	13.74	-3.45	80	104
Union	52	95	72	7	158	48	0.09	-0.12	3	15.52	2.04	115	134
SOUTHEAST													
Ontario	59	92	75	3	176	15	0.20	0.08	1	8.82	-0.70	93	75
Rome	56	93	75	6	175	42	0.73	0.59	4	7.85	-0.27	97	82

Summary based on National Weather Service data.

Season Cumulative Precip Starts: Monday, September 1, 2003.

DFN=Departure from normal (using 1961-90 normals period).

Precipitation Days = Days with precipitation of 0.01 inch or more.

Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.

Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit.

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